

21. (original) A method for improving contractile function of myocardial tissue that has suffered ischemic damage, comprising the steps of

- identifying a damaged portion of myocardial tissue,
- providing a catheter having a distal end adapted for delivering therapeutic agents into myocardial tissue,
- introducing said catheter into an anatomic structure,
- guiding said catheter through the anatomic structure to reach a surface of the heart,
- disposing said distal end against the surface of the heart, and
- sequentially delivering at least two therapeutic agents through the surface of the heart to the damaged myocardial tissue,

wherein the first therapeutic agent contains at least one angiogenic factor, and wherein the second therapeutic agent contains implantable cells adapted for restoration of contractile function.

22. (original) A method for improving contractile function of myocardial tissue that has suffered ischemic damage, comprising the steps of

- identifying a damaged portion of myocardial tissue,
- accessing said damaged portion of myocardial tissue, and
- delivering at least two therapeutic agents to the damaged portion of myocardial tissue,

wherein the first therapeutic agent contains at least one agent capable of promoting angiogenesis,

wherein the second therapeutic agent contains cells adapted for implantation in said myocardial tissue, and

whereby the first therapeutic agent evokes a local angiogenic response in the damaged myocardial tissue and the second therapeutic agent introduces cells adapted for implantation in said myocardial tissue, said cells capable of regenerating contractile muscle tissue to achieve improved contractile function.